

Mr. CAPUANO. Thank you, Mr. PASCRELL.

Barry, I wanted to save this until last because, honestly, stuff about life is just stuff. It is all interesting.

You have had an interesting life. Great. For me, I wanted to do this because I consider you a friend, and I don't make friends that easily. I make a lot of acquaintances. I don't consider a lot of people close friends.

□ 1845

To me, friendship is based on whether I think somebody will go through the fire for me like I would go through the fire for them. My judgment on you is that you would. It has a lot to do with the way you were raised. I don't know much about it, but I do. When you were raised in South Boston, I was being raised in Somerville. There was only one place in the world tougher than South Boston at that time, and that was Somerville.

I will tell you that an awful lot of people come out of those situations bitter, with a lot of difficulties, not knowing what to do and angry at the world. A lot of good people come out of it, though, just the opposite—understanding, okay, life can be tough; life isn't fair; make the best of it you can. It is better to go through life with a smile and take yourself a little less seriously than it is to be bitter. You have done that. You have done it with grace. To me, that means an awful lot.

I will tell you that it was always comforting for me to hear the voice on the machine. I think it is a joke. I think it is hilarious. I have actually enjoyed having to catch you up on your proper pronunciation of words. I love the fact that your friends at home called you and told you that the word "speaker" isn't spoken the way you have got it. It has been twisted after all of these years. You have got to get it right. Get back up to Boston, and get it straight. I think that is great.

I will tell you that, for me, the relationship started before I even knew it, and that was at St. John's Prep. You are the only person I know who went there besides me. The only difference between you and me is you finished it, and I got kicked out, but in those days—and I have no idea. I never asked why you were there. I know why I was there. I was there to be plucked out of a difficult situation with the hope that things would go a different way. Now, of course, you couldn't take the Somerville out of me, and it didn't quite work out the way my parents had thought it might. The Xaverian brothers mostly were from Somerville at the time, and their beatings were nothing to me—just natural life.

But, to me, that tells me something—you had it right from the beginning. You had a good upbringing. You treat people with respect. You understand the needs of the Members here, and you treat us like human beings. To me, that is more important than anything else. For me, that friendship doesn't go away.

I hate the fact that you are retiring. I hate it. I hate it because I don't take change too well. I like certain, stable things in my life. I love STEPHEN LYNCH, but I hate the fact that Joe Moakley is not with us anymore. I know that life changes, and I know and I hope to God that you have a great retirement. I hope you enjoy yourself. I hope you learn to say your wife's name properly. My wife is also a "Barbara," and there are no "ah's" in there. You don't need that letter. It is an extra letter. Just get rid of it.

I hope you have a great retirement. I hope you realize that you are always, always, always going to have friends here. I don't care where I am or where you are. If there is ever anything I can do to help you or your family or if there is anything I can do to ever help—I don't even have to say it because I know you know it. It is what we do. It is what we enjoy doing.

You are my friend. I don't come to this well very often, as you well know. It is a unique experience for me. I think most of what is said here is insincere and read off papers. I just wanted to take a minute to sincerely tell you that I have enjoyed our relationship. I consider you a good friend, and I wish you the best of life wherever you go, whatever you do. It has been a joy working with you, and I am proud of the fact that I can call you a friend.

Thank you for your service, Barry. Thank you for your friendship.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

THE HEROES OF NORTH CAROLINA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

IN PRAISE OF THE PATH PROGRAM

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, Larry Woods, a constituent of mine from Winston-Salem, is accomplishing groundbreaking work in service to local North Carolinians.

Under Larry's leadership, the Housing Authority of Winston-Salem is transforming the template for North Carolina's housing programs through a program called PATH, or Projects for Assistance in the Transition from Homelessness.

Through PATH, the housing authority works with community groups in service to families and individuals who are proactively seeking to reduce and eventually end their dependence on government support.

PATH's community collaborations provide specialized job skills, education, employment preparation, and career placement services to equip families as they turn their dreams into reality. The PATH concept, championed by Larry Woods and his team, has capitalized on community resources, has eliminated duplication and gaps in service, and has reduced service costs.

Participants in the PATH program soon will also be able to benefit from access to special "step-up" housing at the housing authority's new, modern facilities.

In the near future, some individuals working to improve their lives through PATH will be able to move into the Oaks, a new 50-unit development located in Winston-Salem. The Oaks will feature a variety of apartments to fit residents' unique needs and provide a valuable incentive for participants as they move forward in their personal journeys toward self-sufficiency. An open house was recently held at the Oaks, where two completed units were shown to the public, and I would like to congratulate all involved on that accomplishment.

Larry and his team's forward-thinking approach to public housing has changed the lives of many North Carolinians. The PATH program is just one component of their efforts to advance their mission of direct service in a fiscally responsible way.

Communities throughout our country that are looking to overcome the challenges of homelessness can find new ideas to meet the needs of their citizens by looking to the great example of Winston-Salem's PATH program.

THE SPIRIT OF SERVICE AND VOLUNTEERISM:
DEWEY'S BAKERY AND FORBUSH HIGH SCHOOL
BAND BOOSTERS

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, community spirit is alive and well in North Carolina's Fifth District.

The Forbush High School Band Boosters are creatively working toward the goal of replacing decades-old band uniforms and equipment. Booster volunteers have been fund-raising for this project for years because the \$30,000 price tag goes well beyond a single year's budget.

In their effort, they reached out to Dewey's Bakery in Winston-Salem, and the two have teamed to open a special Dewey's fund-raising store in Yadkinville, North Carolina, much like fund-raising stores operating for other schools in Clemmons and Boone. Mr. and Mrs. Clate and Josie Wingler of Yadkinville graciously donated a storefront, and right now Band Boosters are there, selling wonderful Dewey's products, as they will be until Christmas. The entire Yadkinville store is run by volunteers—band members, parents, grandparents, and community supporters; and more than one-third of the store's profits will go directly to the Forbush High School Band.

This level of teamwork, spirit of volunteerism, generosity, and commitment to local communities is a testament to the wonderful people living in the Fifth District.

75TH ANNIVERSARY: NATIONAL INDUSTRIES FOR
THE BLIND

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, National Industries for the Blind celebrates its 75th anniversary this year, and I congratulate NIB on this achievement. The work NIB, its team members, and affiliates do every day in service to

blind and visually impaired Americans is deserving of national attention and thanks.

NIB teams with 91 associated non-profit agencies to extend opportunities for economic and personal independence to men and women throughout America who are blind. NIB goes about this goal primarily by connecting visually impaired individuals with good jobs—jobs they can be proud of.

In my home State, Winston-Salem Industries for the Blind has worked on behalf of visually impaired North Carolinians since 1936. Last year, under the leadership of executive director David Horton and executive chairman Dan Boucher, Industries for the Blind connected 309 local residents with fulfilling job opportunities at manufacturing facilities in Winston and Asheville.

As a visually impaired person myself, I have great appreciation for NIB's commitment to help those with severe sight challenges acquire what Winston-Salem Industries for the Blind describes as the "confidence and independence to contribute to society and fulfill personal dreams of having a job."

To the folks at NIB and at local industries throughout the country, congratulations on 75 years of faithful service, and best wishes for many more years to come.

SAMARITAN'S PURSE AND TYPHOON HAIYAN

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, the prayers of the American people remain with Filipino people as they struggle to recover in the wake of Typhoon Haiyan.

Haiyan claimed thousands of lives, displaced millions and left widespread devastation throughout the Philippine Islands. The gravity of the crisis is heartbreaking. The United States and many international aid organizations have been quick to help our friends in the Philippines.

Samaritan's Purse, an international Christian relief organization headquartered in Boone, North Carolina, is among them. Members of the Samaritan's Purse Disaster Assistance Response Team are on the ground in the Philippines right now, providing medical support and basic survival supplies, such as food and hygiene kits, temporary shelter items, and clean drinking water.

As part of the international response team, Samaritan's Purse is living out its mission to provide "spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world." Its team members on the ground are also obeying, vividly, the Biblical directive to practice faith by visiting orphans and widows in the midst of their distress.

Knowing full well the enormity of the struggle and depth of pain before them, we commit to keep a prayerful vigil for the Samaritan's Purse team in the Philippines, United States aid workers and their international partners, and for the millions whose lives have been changed by the tragedy of Haiyan.

A NOBLE CALLING: HICKORY'S FALLEN HEROES MINISTRY

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, with the recent honoring of our Nation's venerable veterans, it is appropriate to mention a group of my constituents who have accepted an ongoing mission to help our military heroes and their families. Started 3 years ago by ex-marine Mike Beasley, the Fallen Heroes Ministry operates out of Sandy Ridge Baptist Church in Hickory, North Carolina.

The ministry has spread its influence across the State and even the Nation by honoring families who have experienced the tragic loss of a family member in combat. Through this noble undertaking, members of the Fallen Heroes Ministry have reached out to many families who have experienced the loss of a loved one in Iraq or Afghanistan and even to a family in Hickory who lost a son long ago in Vietnam. The Fallen Heroes Ministry serves as a reminder to congregations nationwide to remain engaged in service to America's heroes and their families, since the loss of American soldiers brings real heartbreak to communities back home.

□ 1900

The Fallen Heroes Ministry abides by a noble vision: striving to bring together families of our fallen with the support of home communities to foster an environment to help with their collective healing process. Their work is deserving of praise and their calling—in service to our heroes and our loved ones—shows just a bit of the spirit that sets America apart in the world.

CHARLES CHURCH, A MOST DESERVING RECIPIENT OF THE TUCKWILLER AWARD

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, the Boone Area Chamber of Commerce recently recognized the late Charles Church of Valle Crucis as the recipient of the 2013 Tuckwiller Award for Community Development.

What a way to honor his legacy, for Charles could not be more deserving. He was a farmer, a teacher, a visionary, and a friend of folks well beyond Watauga. Charles was instrumental in building Watauga's local organic farming community and is known for establishing a broad food network in the Boone area.

Charles understood the interdependency of the farm and city. He valued cooperation above competition and possessed the spirit of innovation that has always characterized great North Carolinians.

A successful farmer, Charles selflessly mentored both young and experienced growers. His pioneering ideas and dedicated spirit continued to guide many throughout our community. Without his vision, energy, and dedication, organic farming and the entire locally grown food network in Watauga wouldn't be what it is today.

The Tuckwiller Award remembers Charles as a kind, generous, and tireless advocate for farmers, and, above

all, an honored member of our North Carolina community.

And though the community still very much misses his presence and his counsel, the example set by Charles Church—ever the optimist—continues to inspire.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PITTINGER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. POLIS) for 30 minutes.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I just returned from visiting with hardworking Americans down on The National Mall, including Tom Weiss from Colorado, who are camped out and fasting in front of the Capitol on The National Mall. It is called the "Fast for Families," a call for immigration reform and a pathway to citizenship.

Fasting this month are many fine Americans using their own suffering to send a clear message to us here in Washington—to their elected leaders—that the moral and economic toll of Congress' failure to pass immigration reform is simply too great. This is an economic cause, yes, a security cause, yes, but it is a moral cause to unite families, to allow people to give back to our country to make it greater.

Men and women from all corners of the country are pleading with us to pass comprehensive immigration reform. H.R. 15 here in the House reduces the deficit by close to \$200 billion, creates over 100,000 jobs for Americans, secures our borders, unites families, makes sure that we have people with the skills we need to build a 21st century economy, and all that it requires is action here on the floor of the House.

There are many others in States, including Arizona, Nebraska, California, New York, and Pennsylvania, who are also fasting and depriving themselves of food to demonstrate their passion for fixing our broken immigration system.

I want to share with you the words of Jesus Ramirez, a 16-year-old high school student from Indianapolis, whose parents brought him to the United States when he was just 7 years old to escape the violence that was gripping his home country of Mexico. He says:

My family and 11 million families out there who are undocumented are living in the shadows and living with a fear that one day they will come home and not see a loved one.

Sadly, Mr. Speaker, every day until Congress acts, Jesus' worst fears come true for the 1,100 men, women, and children who are forcibly deported from the United States because our broken immigration system provides no recourse, provides no way under current law to get right with the law, no remedy, no line to get in for people for whom we say "get in line."